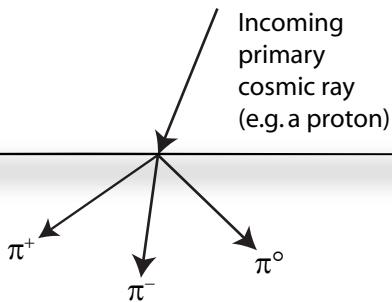


# Cosmic Ray Showers

## a theoretical simulation

Atmosphere



Typical length  
a particle travels  
before decaying or  
hitting an air molecule



| The Particles |                                    |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| $\pi$         | a pion, combination of 2 quarks    |
| $\pi^+$       | a positively-charged pion          |
| $\pi^-$       | a negatively-charged pion          |
| $\pi^0$       | a neutral pion                     |
| $\pi^\pm$     | a positive or negative pion        |
| $\mu^\pm$     | a muon, like an electron but heavy |
| $\nu_\mu$     | a muon neutrino                    |
| $\gamma$      | a gamma ray (high-energy light)    |
| $e^-$         | an electron                        |
| $e^+$         | a positron (anti-electron)         |
| $e^\pm$       | a positron or an electron          |

## Reaction Rules

